



**The United States Agency for International Development
Bureau for Africa (USAID/AFR)
BAA for Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa**

ADDENDUM 01 - IMPROVING HEALTH IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

BAA-AFR-SD-2016

Responses to Questions

Question 1: Are graphics allowed in the EOI submission? Are charts, tables, and other graphics included in the EOI four (4) page limit?

Government Answer: Graphics are allowed and must fit within the page limit.

Question 2: While I know there are margin limits, are there rules around pages that are turned for a landscape view?

Government Answer: Margin limits apply to all pages, regardless of page orientation.

Question 3: Can we as a small NPO apply for the BAA for Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa/Improving Health in Sub-Saharan Africa?

Government Answer: Eligibility information is contained in BAA Section “VII. Award Information”.

Question 4: Under what conditions must a separate EOI be submitted (e.g. One EOI per idea/approach to the objective/areas of interest)?

Government Answer: There is no requirement to submit more than one EOI. USAID will accept one or more than one EOI from the same respondent. It is the respondent’s choice whether to submit one, more than one, or no EOIs. All EOIs must follow submission instructions contained in BAA Addendum #01 Section “III. Instructions for Submitting Expressions of Interest” in order to be considered.

Question 5: Page 7 of Addendum 01 - IMPROVING HEALTH IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA refers: “Provide a brief description of your organization’s experience and/or expertise in the idea/approach you are proposing...” Should EOIs provide individual project specific past performance references in table format, perhaps as Appendices, to support the brief description in the EOI itself? Or should no project specific past performances references be additionally supplied to the brief, more general description of the organization’s experience/expertise in relation to the idea?

Government Answer: No annexes or appendices to the EOI will be accepted. Experience/expertise related to the idea/approach proposed must be included within the EOI page limit.

Question 6: When USAID invites interested parties to participate with USAID to identify innovative thinking through the process of co-creating, co-designing, co-investing, and collaboration, does USAID envision this process being a 1:1 process or an open process whereby all invited parties work with USAID in the development of approaches for the three areas of interest? If the process is an open process with all participants, could USAID kindly provide insight on how ideas presented by organizations, which constitute their intellectual property, are protected?

Government Answer: The co-creation workshop to develop Concept Papers scheduled to be held in April 2016 will be an open process where all invited parties work collaboratively with each other and with USAID to develop approaches. Refer to BAA Section “VIII. Information Protection” for further information regarding intellectual property.

Question 7: Would our bidding on this BAA preclude in any way our ability to bid on any USAID award (e.g., a regional award)? Will the “apparently successful partner or partners” be precluded from bidding on future projects based on their participation in this project design process?

Government Answer: The BAA is not an invitation for bids, nor is it a procurement mechanism. Refer to BAA Sections “VI. Award Stages” and “VII. Award Information” for information regarding the potential for award as a result of the BAA process.

Question 8: What are the size of the awards you are expecting to make?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in awards. Refer to BAA Sections “II. Collaboration”, “III. Specific Rights Reserved for the Government under this BAA”, “VI. Award Stages” and “VII. Award Information”.

Question 9: Is there a maximum duration for the research/intervention/idea/approach? Will the funding support only one year or multi-year projects?

Government Answer: Proposed project duration may be variable. Respondents should propose the duration they deem appropriate for their EOI.

Question 10: How many awards are you expecting to make under the Addendum?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in awards. Number of awards will be determined at a later date, if awards are made. Refer to BAA Sections “II. Collaboration”, “III. Specific Rights Reserved for the Government under this BAA”, “VI. Award Stages” and “VII. Award Information”.

Question 11: When is the expected date the award(s) will be made?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in awards. Refer to BAA Sections “II. Collaboration”, “III. Specific Rights Reserved for the Government under this BAA”, “VI. Award Stages” and “VII. Award Information”.

Question 12: How many potential partners are you expecting to include in the Co-Creation Workshop?

Government Answer: The number of partners invited to the workshop will depend on the number of EOIs submitted that USAID deems to have merit to participate.

Question 13: When will USAID confirm the dates and location of the co-creation workshop?

Government Answer: The co-creation workshop will be held the week of April 18-22, 2016 in Accra, Ghana. The workshop is anticipated to last three working days. Further workshop details will be confirmed in approximately mid-March.

Question 14: After award what, if any, interaction does USAID anticipate between the proposed project and the WHO/AFRO grants administered by the Africa Bureau?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in awards. If awards are made, there is no expected interaction between partners and WHO/AFRO.

Question 15: What funding streams will be used to fund this project?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in projects/awards. If awards are made, funding will be determined by USAID, as appropriate.

Question 16: Will there be opportunities for field support funds or buy-ins from USAID Missions?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in awards. If awards are made, funding will be determined by USAID, as appropriate. USAID Missions will be allowed to participate, as appropriate.

Question 17: Whereas the main call has a strong poverty reduction theme, the addendum had less focus on that. How much focus should our EOI paper place on poverty reduction, while addressing USAID’s specified area(s) of interest?

Government Answer: Poverty reduction is an overall goal of USAID. EOIs should propose ideas for the Africa Bureau Health Addendum’s specific areas of interest.

Question 18: Are there countries that you would like to prioritize? Will the funding support a proposed idea/approach being implemented in multiple countries? Or should it be tested/implemented in only one country?

Government Answer: USAID will consider EOIs for any country or countries in Sub-Saharan Africa that are submitted in accordance with the BAA Addendum #01 Section “III. Instructions for Submitting Expressions of Interest”.

Question 19: Will there be a prime-subcontractor approach or will there be a consortium approach?

Government Answer: The BAA may or may not result in awards. The eventual structure of any award(s) resulting from this announcement is not determined.

Question 20: Does a subcontractor need to be presented or stated in the EOI?

Government Answer: No. USAID is interested in ideas being presented in the EOIs.

Question 21: If an organization submits more than one EOI, can they have two people present per EOI? (It is indicated that only technical people should attend the workshop - not BD).

Government Answer: Each organization may only send two representatives to the workshop, even if more than one of their EOIs are selected for participation.

Question 22: Along with the two individuals nominated to participate in the Concept Paper workshop, is there any additional documentation required with the EOI (i.e. CVs)?

Government Answer: No.

Question 23: If we determine after co-creation with USAID that a partner will be needed, may we add that partner then, vs identifying that partner now in accordance with USAID?

Government Answer: Partners for final concepts will be identified and possibilities for sub-contracting can be explored as the need arises.

Question 24: Addendum p.5: 2) Strengthened African Capacity *Strengthened capability of African institutions*....Does the reference to African Institutions mean only health institutions? Or does it refer to any type of institution that may choose to be involved with health issues?

Government Answer: USAID will consider working with any African Institutions that may help address the areas of interest in Addendum #01.

Question 25: Are all four evaluation criteria (Idea/Approach, Impact, Ability to Participate, and Diversity of Perspectives and Capabilities) equally weighted?

Government Answer: Evaluation criteria are for information only and are not weighted. EOIs will not be scored or compared against one another. EOIs will be evaluated and selected for continuation in the BAA process based on their individual merits.

Question 26: Would USAID consider providing funding under this Addendum to proposals that aim to address USAID’s first Topline Health Priority (Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths) in a country that is **not** among USAID’s 24 Priority Countries specified in USAID’s 2014 Acting on the Call: Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths Report? If yes, would such proposals be weighted differently than those for programs in Priority Countries?

Government Answer: USAID will consider EOIs that address EPCMD in any country in Sub-Saharan Africa that are submitted in accordance with the BAA Addendum #01 Section “III. Instructions for Submitting Expressions of Interest”.

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